

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In the Office Action, the Examiner has rejected independent claim 8 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) based on Ng et al. and the only other pending independent claim in the application, i.e., claim 27, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) based on Boothby in view of Ng. As will be further discussed below, Applicants respectfully traverse the Examiner's rejections.

As now more-particularly claimed in independent claim 8, a user interface is coupled to a plurality of databases. A unique graphical representation of a record from each of the plurality of databases is presented on the user interface. The unique graphical representation of the record is interactively manipulatable on the user interface. Further, a database operation is performable on a record in the database in response to an interactive manipulation of the unique graphical representation of the record on the user interface. Thus, claim 8 particularly claims that a database record is graphically represented on a user interface and an operation on the database record is performable in response to an interactive manipulation of representation on the user interface. Applicants respectfully submit that Ng does not disclose these features of Applicants' invention.

In the Office Action, the Examiner argues that Ng discloses Applicants' invention at col. 5, lines 27-31 and col. 6, lines 11-21. The Examiner also points to Ng at col. 7, lines 16-25 and col. 10, lines 19-23. Applicants respectfully submit that they have very carefully reviewed this disclosure of Ng, as well as the entire disclosure of Ng, and respectfully submit that they do not see any disclosure in Ng for Applicants' claimed unique graphical representation of a record from each of a plurality of databases being presented on a user interface and an operation being performable on the record in response to an interactive manipulation of the graphical representation on the user interface. Applicants respectfully submit that, at most, Ng discloses a remote client that includes a browser 190 which can connect to a web server 140 of a global server 140 [sic]. Whereas it is disclosed in Ng that the remote client "can access, review, and

possibly manipulate workspace data stored in the user data store 150", Applicants respectfully submit that Ng provides no disclosure for performing any operations on database records in response to manipulation of the unique graphical representation of the record that is presented on the user interface. Further, Ng's user interface 305 only enables a user to designate workspace data to synchronize, enables a user to select a synchronization mode, and enables a user to initiate synchronization. See col. 6, lines 12-16. Additionally, as further described in the Abstract of Ng, a user interface receives information designating a database containing the workspace data to be synchronized and information selecting a synchronization mode. A PIM interface then instructs the particular PIM to retrieve the workspace data to be synchronized. A synchronization module determines update data based on the synchronization mode selected and possibly based on a comparison with the contents of the server database. A communications engine delivers the first update data to the global server, which updates the server database accordingly. Thus, Ng operates in a totally different manner than Applicants' invention.

In Applicants' claimed invention, an operation is performable on the data record in response to a manipulation of the unique graphical representation of the record that is presented on the user interface. Applicants respectfully submit that even if Ng discloses a remote client that can manipulate workspace data stored in a user data store, Ng provides no disclosure for performing an operation on a database record in response to manipulating a unique graphical representation of the record that is presented on the user interface. Therefore, for at least this reason, Applicants respectfully submit that amended claim 8 now even more-particularly distinguishes over Ng and that claim 8 is allowable.

Applicants also respectfully submit that independent claim 27 is also allowable over the Examiner's argued combination of Boothby and Ng. As the Examiner acknowledges in the Office Action, Boothby does not disclose "a user interface adapted to display a graphical representation of the obtained records..." The Examiner relies on Ng to disclose all of the claimed features of claim 27 with

the exception of “the subset of records spanning a date range”, which the Examiner argues is disclosed by Boothby. Therefore, as discussed above, since Applicants respectfully submit that Ng does not disclose the features of Applicants’ invention regarding performing an operation on a database record in response to manipulating a unique graphical representation of the record that is presented on the user interface, and since independent claim 27 also claims these features, Applicants respectfully submit that independent claim 27 is also allowable over Boothby and Ng. Boothby cannot cure the deficiencies of Ng.

Applicants have carefully reviewed the Examiner’s rejections of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, and respectfully submit that the amendments made to claims 8, 11, 12, and 27 obviate the Examiner’s rejections. Applicants have also amended the specification to overcome the Examiner’s objections to the drawings.

Further in the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 8-20 under 35 U.S.C. 101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter. Applicants respectfully submit that claims 8-20 are directed to a useful result, i.e., performing an operation on a database record in response to manipulating a unique graphical representation of the record that is presented on a user interface. Applicants respectfully note that, as stated in M.P.E.P. ¶ 2107.01, “[p]ractical considerations require the Office to rely on the inventor’s understanding of his or her invention in determining whether and in what regard an invention is believed to be ‘useful’. Because of this, Office personnel should focus on and be receptive to assertions made by the applicant that an invention is ‘useful’ for a particular reason.” Further, contrary to the Examiner’s argument, Applicants respectfully submit that system claim 8 includes hardware for the system to be realized. The system includes a user interface coupled to a plurality of databases. Thus, it is not directed to “software per se.”

Further regarding claim 18, Applicants respectfully submit that Applicants are not merely claiming “a form of energy” with no particular useful purpose, but rather are claiming that at least one “communications link”

includes a "wireless link". Applicants respectfully submit that a wireless communications link is statutory subject matter.

With respect to the Examiner's objection to independent claim 27, Applicants respectfully submit that Applicants' amendment of independent claim 27 obviates the Examiner's objection. Applicants respectfully submit that claim 27 is claimed in a format consistent with the Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit's decision of *In re Beauregard*.

Lastly in this Amendment, Applicants have added new independent method claim 34. Applicants respectfully submit that independent method claim 34 is also directed to the subject matter of independent claims 8 and 27, and thus is consistent with Applicants' prior election in this application. Applicants respectfully submit that new independent method claim 34 is allowable for at least the reasons discussed above.

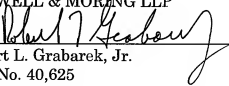
Applicants respectfully submit that the application is now in condition for allowance with claims 8-20, 27-29, and 34 being allowable. Applicants have cancelled withdrawn claims 1-7, 21-26, and 30-33. If there are any questions regarding this Amendment or the application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated since this should expedite the prosecution of the application for all concerned.

As provided for above, this paper should be considered as a petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response. Please charge any deficiency in fees, or credit any overpayment of fees, to Deposit Account No. 05-1323 (Docket No. 100650.53067US).

Respectfully submitted,

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